

chapterletter



Newsletter of the Boston Society of Architects
A Chapter of the American Institute of Architects
November 1978

BSA Annual Meeting Boston / Cambridge 1984



Menzies

Ian S. Menzies needs no introduction to readers of the *Globe*. An Associate Editor and winner of countless press and service awards, he has won our respect through his bold stands on virtually every important issue affecting our profession. Few individuals, if any, know more about our City. As an associate member of the Joint Center for Urban Studies of M.I.T. and Harvard, Ian has a special interest and a special skill in saying those sooths which affects us most directly.

Robert Walsh, an outstanding Director of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, was terminated by Mayor White this year under circumstances of the greatest interest to us all. As a Society, we have admired his integrity and his courage, and this is our opportunity to hear his personal view of our immediate future. Bob has been with the BRA for more than ten years, as staff and Project Director, Director of Community Development, Deputy Director under Bob Kenney, and finally, Director in 1976: his understanding of the City, of its problems, of its development potential, and of its political realities is shared by few men anywhere.

To have had either one of these men share their confidences with us would have been a privilege; to have both is an opportunity which we hope few of our members will wish to miss.

Dinner is \$10.00; a reply envelope is enclosed. Reservations will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., Monday, November 13. Cancellations accepted until noon, Tuesday, November 14.



Walsh

At its Annual Meeting on November 15, the Boston Society of Architects will be pleased to present a prophetic program on the future of our megalopolis. We expect this to be a stimulating event of the greatest interest to the membership, and hope that it will encourage you all to attend the prior business meeting.

To insure a balanced outlook, we have invited TWO guest speakers of unusual interest and competence, and have asked them to come equipped with their crystal balls, diverging viewpoints, and axes in need of sharpening (grinding?).

Bookshop Opening — November 15

Architectural books, Urban Design books, Codes, and many other related books will be available beginning on November 15 in our newly constructed Bookshop. The Grand Opening will be held following the BSA Annual Meeting at 6:00 p.m. The Bookshop is located on the first floor of the BAC. Come by and browse, Monday thru Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. But especially, come on November 15 at 6:00 p.m. to join this celebration. Architects in the Boston area no longer need to order their books from book clubs. If we don't have the book you want in stock, we'll be glad to order it for you. Members of the BSA will receive a discount of 10% on most books, and 20% on AIA publications.

Now's the time to purchase those Holiday Books!!

Some of the popular books which we stock include: *The Bathroom, Streets, Great Moments in Architecture, Architectural Graphics, Cities, How to Market Professional Design Services, Experiencing Architecture, and Outline of European Architecture.*

In addition, we have the following new titles in stock: *Site Planning Standards, Hospitals and Health Care Facilities, Kitchen Planning Guide, Beyond Metabolism: The New Japanese Architecture, Techniques of Interior Design Rendering and Presentation, and Earthscape.*

As with AIA Documents, books can be delivered to you overnight by UPS. Delivery charges, although minimal, are in addition to book prices. Credit terms for all BSA members to purchase both books and AIA Documents are easily arranged by calling the Chapter Office at 267-5175.

As you look over the book list, you may think of titles we should stock. If so, please call or write and let us know so that we can order them. Note that the prices which are listed are the prices for the general public. Members should deduct 10%.

The complete line of AIA Documents continue to be offered with the largest discount available anywhere in Massachusetts. Call the Chapter Office with your book orders and your next order of AIA Documents.

BOOKS

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President Rankine Reports

1979 Budget

The proposed 1979 budget on Page 3 reflects many of the policies and achievements of the current year. It also reflects the seemingly inevitable increases in costs and salaries that have to be part of the planning of all businesses, practices and institutions.

The budget proposed increases in dues because of these cost escalations and also because of a policy set by the Board of the Boston Society of Architects to start programs that eventually will benefit the Chapter, both in revenue and in increased activities. Because of the need to ensure continuing successful operation of the annual Architectural Show and of the newly started document sales service and bookstore, Richard Martini, a BAC student, was added to the staff during the last year. His activities helped enormously in the profitability and vitality of the Annual Show and in the establishment of the store. The store is now open for business in the entrance areas of the BAC and is also doing a healthy mail-order business in documents and books with both members and non-members. We expect that in future years the revenue from the show and the store will help to hold down the dues, but meanwhile we are having to bear the load for start-up costs. It is hoped that members will continue to support these activities.

The newly established awards program is now in full swing, resulting in good press for the Chapter and for individual members. During the last year we have strengthened through the Massachusetts State Association of Architects our liaison with other professional groups to monitor state and local laws and to provide our input in the establishment of new codes.

All of these activities and the ongoing work of the committees reflect the health of the Chapter and its increasing role in providing a needed service to the architects of Metropolitan Boston.

Rotch Travelling Scholarship

Requests for application forms for the Rotch Travelling Scholarship must be made in writing and received no later than Monday, January 22, 1979. Applicants must be citizens of the United States, under thirty-five years of age on March 10 of the year of the competition; must have a degree from an accredited school of architecture plus at least one full year of professional experience in an architectural office in Massachusetts, or have received a degree from an accredited Massachusetts school of architecture and had at least one full year of professional experience in an architectural office not necessarily in Massachusetts. A detailed statement of eligibility requirements, History of the Scholarship, 1979 Calendar, etc., is sent out with the Application Form.

Requests must be submitted to: Hugh Stubbins FAIA Secretary Rotch Travelling Scholarship 1033 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02138

MSAA Building Code Committee

The MSAA Building Code Committee has participated in the current code rewriting effort and has appeared before the State Building Code Commission at all the public hearings to comment on the proposed changes. Basically, the new code will be much closer to the 1978 BOCA Code and many of the most objectionable provisions of the old code have been eliminated. The egress provisions which have caused so much confusion will be gone, and the egress will be as provided in BOCA 1978. A number of resolutions proposed by MSAA were accepted by the Commission — among them the fact that amendments to the code will be made only once a year unless there is an absolute emergency. The code will be printed loose leaf and amendments will be reprinted on an entire page of a different color for insertion. To allow for orderly transition, there will be a six-month period in which either the old code or the new code can be used. It is expected that the new code will become effective on January 1, 1979. The Committee is continuing to work on the new section proposed for the reuse of existing buildings which was first published and heard on October 3, 1978.

If any members have specific code problems to discuss, they should let the Committee know about them as soon as possible. The Committee presented a seminar at the BAC on the proposed new code in June of this year, and those attending generally agreed that the new code will be a substantial improvement over the oft-amended document now in use.

BAC Study Tour

The BAC is sponsoring a study tour to Italy during January. The tour will leave Boston on Sunday, January 14, 1979, and will return on Sunday, January 28, 1979. The cost will be \$690.00, which is based on a double occupancy.

The price includes: round trip airfare on Al-Italia, 13 nights in 1st class hotels, (double rooms with private baths), breakfast, transfers, full-time ground transportation by private motorcoach, Italian guide and BAC faculty guides. The prices do not include: meals other than breakfast, and admission to certain monuments and museums (free to students).

For a complete tour itinerary, call Ed Roche at 1-454-7776. All payments must be made to: Travel Wholesale Boston Inc., 69 Hickory Drive, Waltham, MA 02154. All reservations and final payments are required by December 1, 1978.

Membership

New Members

John Charles Hecker AIA
William Francis Smith AIA

New Emeritus Members

Michael R. D'Orsi AIA

New Applicants for Membership

John Carl Becker
Richard C. Boast
Michael David Rubin
John Patrick Sheehy

Applicant for Associate Membership in AIA
Steven Jay Bradford

Transfers from Boston
Norman E. Jackson, Jr. AIA
to Colorado Central Chapter AIA

1979 Budget

EXPENSES:	ORIGINAL BUDGET 1978	AMENDED BUDGET 1978	PROPOSED BUDGET 1979
Administration & Chapter Office			
Salaries	43,600	56,000*	** 54,240
Payroll Taxes	2,800	2,800	3,600
Telephone	1,400	1,400	1,500
Supplies	500	500	600
Maintenance & Equipment	435	475	1,000
Printing	6,500	6,500	5,000
Postage	1,000	1,000	1,800
Ex. Director & Staff Expense	1,000	1,000	1,200
BAC Rent	5,000	5,000	5,000
Miscellaneous	300	300	300
Delivery	300	300	300
Extra Secretarial	none	none	500
Insurance	210	210	210
Total Chapter Office	66,545	78,985	78,950
President's Office			
Misc. Reimbursements	1,000	1,000	1,000
Treasurer's Office			
Telephone	300	300	300
Xerox	500	500	500
Rent	1,800	1,800	1,800
Supplies and Postage	500	500	500
Audit and Accounting	750	750	750
Total Treasurer's Office	3,850	3,850	3,850
Total Administration	71,395	83,835	83,800
Board and Committees			
Board Meetings and Mailing	1,400	1,400	1,400
Committee Meetings	500	500	750
Public Relations	1,500	1,500	1,000
Legal Fees	500	500	500
Convention Reimbursements	2,600	2,600	2,500
Newsletter	3,800	3,800	4,800
Contingency	1,000	1,000	1,000
Space Search	2,000	2,000	500
Total Board & Committees	13,100	13,100	12,250
Professional Society			
Memorials	1,250	1,250	1,250
Programs and Functions	3,500	3,500	3,500
Membership Certificates	200	200	200
Architecture Boston (books)	none	1,000	none
Total Professional Society	4,950	5,950	4,950
Education and Research			
BSA Scholarship			
& Other Prizes	2,680	2,680	2,680
Professional Practice			
Office Practice	100	100	100
Total Professional Practice	2,780	2,780	2,780
Architectural Design			
Historic Resources	2,000	1,500	800
Harleston Parker Medal	600	600	700
Boston Export Awards	100	100	400
Housing Awards	none	none	100
Urban Design	none	none	400
Total Architectural Design	2,700	2,200	2,400
Public Affairs			
Codes Committee	100	100	none
Housing	150	150	none
BSA Barrier Board	100	100	none
Professional Services Comm.	none	500	350
Construction Affairs	none	none	250
Total Public Affairs	350	850	600
Affiliated Organizations			
MSAA est. 620 members			
@ \$20	12,400	12,400	n/a
MSAA est. 620 members			
@ \$28	n/a	n/a	17,360
NERC est. 620 members			
@ \$ 4	2,480	2,480	n/a
NERC est. 620 members			
@ \$ 6	n/a	n/a	3,720
Student Chapter	100	100	100
Miscellaneous Dues	575	575	675
Total Affiliated Organizations	15,555	15,555	21,855
Sub Total Expenses	110,830	124,270	128,635

	ORIGINAL BUDGET 1978	AMENDED BUDGET 1978	PROPOSED BUDGET 1979
Special Accounts			
BSA Show Energy '78	none	9,980	n/a
BSA Show 1979	n/a	n/a	10,000
BSA Exhibit at BAC	none	200	none
Bookstore	none	3,750***	see below
Rent	1,200		
Postage	500		
UPS	500		
Supplies	500		
Misc.	200		
Promotional	500		
Insurance	300		
Audit	300		
Equipment	500		
Telephone	300		
	4,800		
Salary	6,750		11,550
TOTAL expenses	110,830	134,450	150,185

*The BSA Board first authorized a salary of \$6,000 for additional staff to manage the BSA Show "Energy '78"; and if receipts allowed, to continue employment of this staff for the second half of the year at \$6,000 additional.

**This figure represents staff changes, increase in salaries, and transfer of salary costs to the Bookstore in the amount of \$6,750.

***\$3,750 has been held in escrow from 1977 dues for Arch. N.E. Magazine, and has been used to purchase inventory for the Bookstore. See summary under assets.

INCOME:	ORIGINAL BUDGET 1978	AMENDED BUDGET 1978	PROPOSED BUDGET 1979
Member Dues:			
BSAA	\$78		
MSAA	\$20		
NERC	\$ 4		
620 @	\$102	63,240	63,240
BSA	\$86		
MSAA	\$28		
NERC	\$ 6		
620 @	\$120	n/a	n/a
Associate Members:			
51 @	\$102		
23 @	\$102		
20 @	\$120	5,202	74,400
Associate Members:			
51 @ \$102	5,202	n/a	n/a
23 @ \$102	n/a	2,346	n/a
20 @ \$120	n/a	n/a	2,400
Supplemental Assessment			
850 @ \$35	29,750	29,750	29,750
MSAA Reimbursement for			
Exec. Director	6,200	6,200	6,200
Interest Income	1,200	1,200	1,200
Misc. Income	100	200	100
Programs & Functions	2,500	3,000	2,500
BSA Charitable Foundation	2,680	2,680	2,680
Architecture Boston (books)	none	300	none
Boston Export Awards	none	700	700
Housing Awards	none	300	300
Urban Design	none	none	400
Sub Total Income	110,872	109,916	120,630
Special Accounts			
BSA Show Energy '78	none	24,970	n/a
BSA Show 1979	n/a	n/a	25,000
BSA Exhibit at BAC	none	290	none
Total Special Accounts	none	25,170	25,000
Bookstore	none	none	5,000
TOTAL Income	110,827	135,086	150,630

News from the Chapter Office

Calendar

November 4

*Harvard Architecture Review
Urban Design Symposium*

November 10

Deadline for inclusion in
Residential Architects listing.

November 14

ASID Meeting
Warren Platner lectures

November 15

BSA Annual Meeting

November 15

BSA Bookshop
Opening Reception

November 29

MSAA Annual Meeting

December 1

Reservations and final payment
for BAC Study Tour.

January 22

Deadline for Rotch Travelling
Scholarship application requests.

Order AIA Documents from the
Chapter office.

Movies '78 at the BAC

Time & Place

Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.
BAC, Cascieri Hall

Donation: \$2.00
(Students \$1.50)

Refreshments:

Cash Bar

November 2 — *Four Sculptors*
November 9 — *Four Architects*
November 16 — *Four Houses*

For more information, contact
the BAC.

Residential Architects

The old listing of architects interested in doing residential work has been destroyed. This list is circulated to homeowners who call the Chapter office seeking an architect, and is distributed on a rotating basis, 5 architects per homeowner.

The cutoff date for the new list is November 10, 1978. If you wish to be included, please submit your name and address to the Chapter office. If a firm is listed, please be sure and note an individual in the firm to contact.

Warren Platner Lecture

Internationally known Architect, Warren Platner, will be the guest lecturer at a meeting sponsored by the New England Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers on Tuesday, November 14, in the auditorium of the new Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, 600 Atlantic Avenue, Boston.

Mr. Platner, who carries on one of the most versatile practices in the profession, will speak on architecture, design, decoration and artwork beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The admission fee is \$3.00 per person. For ticket reservations please call 617/969-2335 or send a check or money order to:

Martin Elinoff Associates
381 Elliot Street
Newton Upper Falls
Massachusetts 02164

Please make checks payable to:
N.E. Chapter, ASID. Tickets will be held at the door.

Architect Needed

The Town of Provincetown seeks an architect to oversee completion of a 60-bed nursing facility now 90% built. Please contact C. K. Cobb, Town Manager, Town Hall, Provincetown, MA 02657. (617) 487 3900.

MSAA Housing Committee

The Housing Committee has been working with the Department of Community Affairs on contracts for Architectural services which had been revised and adapted to cover modernization of existing housing projects, small group residences and rehabs, as well as housing for the elderly. Many of the provisions in the contracts were detrimental to the best interests of both Architects and the Commonwealth. In late fall of 1977, the first meetings were held with DCA concerning their modernization contracts. The fee schedules were unbelievably low and the contract provisions were unrelated in the most part to the work which was to be done. In addition to the fact that much of the boilerplate referred to new construction rather than modernization, the contract provided for termination by the local authority, but not by the Architect. Also, the Architect could be terminated for not submitting his documents on time.

Subsequent to our initial meetings, many of the most objectionable provisions were corrected but no progress was made on increasing the percentage fees. The published schedule ranged from a low of 4% to a maximum of 8% on the theory that there was a great deal of repetitive contract work to be performed. No progress has been made in achieving a more equitable fee arrangement to date, and the Committee is currently meeting with the Staff at DCA to further discuss the problem.

More progress was made with the Housing for the Elderly contract which was revised by the Design Review Staff of DCA. The Staff desired a stronger contract in the provisions for design services and a strong set of guidelines and design criteria was published and made part of the contract. This contract was reviewed by the Committee and our lawyer, and there were some technical objections to the wording. These were transmitted to the DCA, but to date they have not been incorporated.

That's the bad news. But the good news is that the fee schedule takes into account the increased services required and is substantially better than the old contract. Among other things, the contract provides for an initial payment of five thousand dollars upon signing the contract in order to pay for site feasibility and other studies. The MSAA Committee intends to keep working with DCA on these contract provisions and fee negotiations for as long as it takes to get a meeting of the minds and a fair document for both parties.

Urban Design Symposium

The *Harvard Architecture Review*, a new publication by students at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, is sponsoring an Urban Design Symposium, "The Park Square Sketch Problem," on Saturday, November 4, at 1:00 p.m., Sanders Theatre, Memorial Hall, Harvard University (\$2 donation at the door). Edmund Bacon, Robert Slutsky and Anthony Vidler will review sketch solutions with the designers: Diana Agrest, Edward Larabee Barnes, Charles Moore, Steven Peterson and Harry Weese. A public reception and exhibition will follow the symposium.